



*Coronation Street 1964 259.73*

#### **c.44.6: Hills Road 'New Town' area - Lensfield Road to Brooklands Avenue**

Includes Bateman Street, Brooklands Avenue, Botanic Garden, Brookside, Coronation Street, Cheshunt College, Lensfield Road, Norwich Street, Perse Girls, Russell Place, Russell Street, St Eligius Street, Union Road

1897 06 21

Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1897 07 23 c

The annual show in connection with the Mill Road, Barnwell and New Town Amateur Gardeners' Association has long been one of the most popular attractions of the summer months. The competition in vegetables was keen among the cottagers' classes. As for amusement at first- class bill of fare was provided for the holiday-makers who began to stream into the building later on in the day

1899 02 19 c

Sir the very narrow escape of a highly respectable burgess from death through the fall of a high wall in Union Road should sound a note of alarm. There are several high walls in the centre of Cambridge towering up to great heights that are standing very much on the skew, ready for falling which would

be much improved by a lowering process. Cambridge is a town noted for many bye-laws, good, bad and indifferent, which can be twisted to suit all occasions when brought into requisition – “Cantab”

1899 06 17

New Town Motor Company advert, p1

1899 08 08

The holiday season is now in full swing and, taking advantage of it, the burglar is busy at his nefarious profession. There are rumours that sever of these well-known “gentlemen” have paid of their periodical visits to Cambridge and have commenced operations. There has been a report of the mysterious perambulations of burglars in the vicinity of Brooklands Avenue. At any rate the movement of strangers in that district have given rise to suspicion

## **1900**

1900 03 07

The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor’s residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the ‘Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force.

1902 05 31

New Town Cycles adv, p1

1902 11 17

A serious accident occurred at Hyde Park Corner, Cambridge. Two horse attached to a farm cart became restive when passing a flock of sheep and dashed off at great speed in the direction of the shelter at the corner of Lensfield Road. An old man who was crossing the road was knocked down and considerably injured. The cart came violently into contact with the shelter, the railings around the entrance to the public convenience were dislodged and the stonework supporting them broken in several places.

1903 07 21

Smallpox Scare. The Stetchworth Dairies beg to inform our numerous patrons that the utmost precaution is being taken to protect them during the prevailing epidemics, the Dairies being under strict medical supervision. The working staff are being vaccinated. Eucalyptus Soap, specially manufactured by the Castle Soap Company, Castle Works, Cambridge, is one of the surest means to prevent contagion. Petrol Preparations keep off infection; order through your chemist or apply to Petrol, Limited, Union Road, Cambridge. – Adverts

1903 09 17

Lensfield Rd tree, p3

1904 01 02

Laurence Humphry, physician, was summoned for not clearing the footway in front of his house known as Lensfield, on Lensfield Road, Cambridge. The pavement had been covered with leaves which fell chiefly from a tree in the doctor’s garden so a constable called and told him it was in a dangerous condition. However the Corporation had erected a fence separating his land from the highway; his premises adjoined the fence but did not adjoin the footpath. He had another frontage to Panton Street and swept the pavement there.

1905 07 08

Mr Hutchinson of Brooklands Avenue attached a pair of natural wings to a swinging balance and actuated them by means of an electric motor in the way in which a bird's wings move. Encouraged by the experiments he constructed a larger machine with wings of 60 feet square, the power being supplied by a petrol cycle engine. The results are encouraging but no actual attempt at unrestrained flight has been attempted due to the probability of an unpremeditated decent. Were it to be exhibited at the Mammoth Show what a 'draw' it would be. 05 07 08b

1905 10 06

Cheshunt College opened its doors to theological students without any ceremonial. It was founded in 1768 by Selina, the Countess of Huntingdon, and is strictly undenominational. It moved to Cheshunt in 1792 where it was recognised by the University of London and has now transferred to Cambridge. Houses in Cintra Terrace, Hills Road, have been adapted for the 15 students; most will become members of the University and read for degrees. 05 10 06

1906 03 08

Licencing: White Horse Coronation Street 06 03 08c & d

1906 09 08

Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips. The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. 06 09 08c

1906 10 25

Cambridge Library committee recommended that a branch reading room be opened in a room in St Paul's Institute, Coronation Street. But Prof Sorley said a reading room supplied people with ephemeral newspapers and magazines, it did not supply literary, technical, scientific or reference works and the central library did not have the works it should have. However it would prevent a great deal of loafing about in the streets which was productive of crime. 06 10 25b

1906 12 31

New Town reading room, p3

1907 01 02

A warm well-lighted room in St Paul's Institute New Town was opened as a reading room. There was a collection of current literature ready for the first arrivals who drew chairs to the tables and took advantage of the comfort and facilities provided. The Free Library was one of the most popular institutions in Cambridge, ten years ago a branch was established at Mill Road with other reading rooms at Castle End and East Road. 07 01 02 & 2a

1908 07 10

Fire damaged the Christadelphian Hall in Coronation Street, Cambridge, but fortunately the harmonium was not injured to any great extent. Another fire which broke out at Hale's Farm, Haverhill is believed to have been caused by the heat of the sun. During the afternoon the sun's rays had been extremely hot, the roof of the shed, under the slates was boarded and during the last winter had been stocked with stover. CWN 08 07 10 p2

1908 11 06

The women candidates for Cambridge borough councillors have quickened interest in the recent elections. All though the day rumours of the arrival of the Pankhurst brigade were flying about with speculation that 50 militant females had arrived from London, but nobody saw any suffragettes. The crowd expressed their pleasure in cheers when it was announced that both the lady candidates, Miss Kennedy who stood in New Town and Miss Philpott who stood in Petersfield, had been defeated.

1908 12 18

Last week two persons were summoned for riding cycles on the footpaths in Brooklands Avenue, one being discharged and the other fined half-a-crown. It is contended by some that the Avenue is a private road, as evidence of which they point to the gate which stands at one end. If it is so what powers have the magistrates to convict? One explanation is that the footpath on the north side of the Avenue is a public footpath and it was on this that the defendants were riding. If so why does the path remain a perfect quagmire throughout the winter? CWN 08 12 18

1909 03 05

Licencing: White Horse in Coronation Street CWN 09 03 05

1909 03 12

Thomas Adkins of Musgrave Farm, Fen Ditton carried on a butcher's business in Norwich Street for 30 years. He was well-known at the Cattle Market and was one of the judges at the Christmas Fat Stock sales. His death at the age of 61 came as a surprise, as he usually enjoyed excellent health. About a month ago, however, he broke a blood vessel and in spite of constant and skilful medical attention he died. 09 03 12

1909 07 30

Mr S.G. Wilkinson of Brooklands Avenue said that when he called in tradesmen the builder had a Scotch foreman, the electric light foremen were Scotch, the electric bells were muddled by two Englishmen and finally put right by a Scotsman! Cambridge men would be quite content to live on the dole and would exist in discomfort rather than exert themselves over much. Most lived for the enjoyment of the next pleasure. The fair, the excursion, the treat, the Hippodrome, the sweet shop or the public house was the matter of chief moment to them. CWN 09 07 30

1909 12 03

Lacon's brewery should receive £143 in compensation for the closure of the Red Lion public house at Orwell, and £325 for the White Horse in Coronation Street. CWN 09 12 03

## **1910**

1910 02 04

Licencing – White Horse Coronation Street – 10 02 04e & f

1912 03 08

A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" – quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1912 05 24

Mrs H. Bonnett of Lensfield Road has offered to build, equip and endow a Clinical Laboratory for the benefit of Addenbrooke's Hospital as a memorial to her son, the late Mr John Bonnett, who was for many years secretary and legal adviser to the Hospital and one of its most earnest advocates and supporters. It is not often that such a generous, one might almost say princely, benefaction is offered for such an invaluable object. It is a most generous gift at a time when the Governors are about to decide on plans for a new Children's Ward and out-patients' department. 12 05 24f

1912 10 04

Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 12 20

Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath, it is claimed, is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

1913 01 24

Brooklands Avenue making up

1913 03 14

Cambridge pubs – Norwich Street – Norwich Arms

1913 03 14

Cheshunt College proposed new building

1913 04 25

Cheshunt College foundation stone to be laid

1913 05 02

Star Brewery sue for rent for the Oak, Lensfield Rd

1913 06 13

The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13

1913 11 07

Cheshunt college progress

1913 12 12

Miss Street was appointed the first headmistress of the Perse when the school opened in January 1881 and retired in July 1909. She was signally successful: the numbers rising from 16 to 206. That was before the founding of the Girls' County School and then there was a slight decrease 13 12 12 p5 CIP

1913 12 26

There were people who did not like the Catholic school on Union Road and wanted to turn the Catholics out so they could bring people in to teach anything but the Faith for which it had been built. If parents rallied the school could be retained. But every child taken away was a power and interest lost future. How could anyone say the school was not efficient: they had never had a set of boys so nicely behaved and intelligent? Every parent ought to be proud to say their children went there, Monsignor Scott said at prize giving. 13 12 26 p6 CIP

1914 06 19

If Chaucer Road was a newly-made road the council would not allow the owners to build until they had made the road up to the required standard. But if the residents wanted to keep the road private and did not want water and the other benefits of civilisation they had a right to keep as they were, one councillor said. Owners had petitioned against council plans to have the road made up. But in Grange

Road, Brooklands Avenue and Selwyn Gardens householders had paid and it was unfair to treat one set of ratepayers differently from another 14 06 19 p3

1914 07 24

Cheshunt College to open October

1914 09 18

Cheshunt college formal opening cancelled

1914 11 27

The Hospitality Committee for Belgian refugees has equipped four houses in which 55 refugees have been accommodated. They are 'Scotsdale' on Grantchester Rd where a Flemish priest has been lodged with nine members of his family and 'South House' Barton Road which houses 14 members of doctor's family. A young lace maker and a family of eight from Louvain lodges at No.4 West View Newnham while at No.11 Brookside there are 22 refugees from Malines and Ostend. In Regent Street a studio has been converted into a fair-sized reading room where Dutch, French and English papers are supplied. \* & p5 14 11 27

1915 02 05

Cheshunt College. The dedication of new building's at Cheshunt College, Cambridge, took place on Tuesday afternoon. A service was held in the Lecture Room, and an address was given by the Rev. Principal Selbie. The total cost of the buildings, apart from the cost of the land, including all expenses, is just over £18,000 and the total donations paid and those promised amount to £14,500. 15 02 05

1916 03 08

Licensing sessions – King's Arms, Union Rd; Horse & Gate, Victoria Rd; Cross Keys, Saxon St; Swan & Pool, New St. – all referred – 16 03 08a

1918 02 13

Borough licences; closure Horse & Gate on Victoria Rd; King's Arms Union Road, Swan Pool in New Street – 18 02 13a

1918 05 22

Rook shooting in Brookside and Brooklands Avenue – photos – 18 05 22b

## **1920**

1920 02 11

Cheap cottages in Coronation St, New Street auctioned – 20 02 11c

1922 03 11

Brooklands Avenue Inquiry. It was an attempt to make a road from Hills-road to Trumpington-road. At present the greater part of the Avenue was open but it was in regard to the smaller part at the Trumpington-road end that the application was made. At the present time there was a gate fastened there and kept locked by the owner. He understood that people going to houses in the Avenue were allowed to go though and he could understand that the gentleman would like to keep it a quiet place. Personally he would oppose it if he lived there.

1922 05 06

My readers will learn with great regret that Brooklands Avenue (Cambridge) with its countless romantic associations appears to be fore-doomed to destruction. The beautiful trees which provide the leafy tunnel which for generations has been so much admired are elms, and elms have an unpleasant habit of dismembering themselves with age. A good many of the trees must come down at once, as they are in such a decayed state to be liable to split and fall without warning

1922 07 22

The prospect of a serious deficiency at the Botanic Garden is almost a certainty; it is expected to be about £1,362. A suggestion has been made that the public should be charged a small fee for admission, but there is a natural objection to adopting this course, the garden having been open so long and so extensively used by the public. A suggested alternative is that the garden should close at 5.30. A further proposal is that the principal greenhouses should be closed and their contents sold. Something will have to be done. The Garden practically ranks as a public park. We are in danger of losing that park

1922 10 03

Sir, I wish to call attention to the great nuisance and obstruction caused by the bicycles outside the Perse School in Panton Street, Cambridge. At about 10 minutes to 9 there must be at least a score of girls waiting, every one with her cycle facing the door and blocking the pavement. Surely the doors could be opened earlier, or else the scholars could be made to form up properly in a queue round Union road – A ratepayer

1925 01 31

Brooklands Avenue trees, p6

1925 04 09

Two attempts were made to stop an armed motorist who broke into Daisley's shop at Coronation Street, Cambridge, & stole a quantity of chocolates, cigarettes etc. A car travelling at high speed was seen by a constable at Bishop's Stortford. Shortly after PC Dodson of Harlow police station was notified of the approach of the car. Dashing out of the police station in his pyjamas he stood in the middle of the road and signalled the car to stop. It continued its course and the constable had to jump very quickly out of the way.

1926 01 18

Sir – Years ago the owners and residents of Brookside, Cambridge, planned and built their houses. Naturally these men were entirely ignorant of the future introduction and rapid growth of motor traffic and innocently planned their property to the main road in the form of a large parking place. Necessity soon decided that man should choose sites as parking places for stationary traffic to shelter from danger, load and unload etc, out of the busy road. Now an avaricious council espied the large ready-made parking place and coveted it, causing its lawful owners such 'nuisance' as will eventually drive them from their homes. – Sympathetic Ratepayer

1926 01 23

"I want to remind you that the Labour Party is not a party of Bolsheviks, or Communists, or Anarchists, or anything like that. Most of us are simple, honest, straightforward men and women. We have absolute confidence that our party is the part of the future", said Major Freyer at a well-attended meeting organised by New Town Ward Labour Party. He added: "I can assure you that the Liberals and Conservatives on Cambridge Town Council are practically the same." He believed the essential services such as water, gas and electric power, and transport should be community-owned.

1926 05 11

The Recorder gave his judgement on the appeal of residents of Brookside, Cambridge, against the council's order authorising part of Trumpington Road as a parking place. They anticipated noise from the vehicles and their attendants who would gaze into their windows. They also thought it would be used for charabancs and omnibuses. Having heard the evidence and visited the spot he was satisfied that the fears are to a great extent groundless

1928 06 05

The first paid Marconigram was transmitted on June 3rd, 30 years ago. It was sent by Lord Kelvin who was visiting Senatore Marconi's experimental wireless station on the Isle of Wight. In order to

illustrate his belief in its commercial future, Lord Kelvin insisted upon paying one shilling for a wireless telegram to be sent to Sir George Stokes at Lensfield Cottage, Union Road, Cambridge.

1928 11 10 c

An explosion in Lensfield Road, Cambridge brought people to their doors and it was seen that the cover of a large manhole in the pavement had been blown into the air and flung on the roadway where it had smashed. Fortunately there was no one near at the time and no personal injury. Even a horse standing by attached to a milk cart was untouched and apparently unperturbed by the untoward happening. The manhole contains GPO telephone cables; two employees were at work at a smaller manhole, about 80 yards away. They were applying a blowlamp when the explosion took place; it is thought the two manholes are connected and the flame must have ignited gas.

1928 12 06

For some time Cambridge bowlers have felt the present facilities were not attractive enough and they ran the risk of losing fixtures with first-class counties because of the state of the greens. Now an anonymous donor has offered a lease on ground in Brooklands Avenue; it would not require a great deal of levelling. The act was one of extraordinary generosity and should allow the formation of Cumberland turf greens and other sporting attractions.

1929 06 14

Brooklands Avenue bowls, p7

## **1930**

1930 11 04

In a quiet street in Cambridge, a very charming old lady celebrates her 100th birthday. She is Mrs Howes, widow of the late John Howes head of the bicycle firm in Regent Street. She comes of a long-lived family. She was born in Coronation Street. Her father, John Galley, a reader at the Pitt Press, lived to the age of 86 and her mother to 80. She has still living four sons and three daughters, 23 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Her memory is still good and she has vivid memories of her girlhood. She was present at the dinner on Parker's Piece to celebrate Queen Victoria's coronation, when her father was one of the carvers. 30 11 04b

1930 12 16

Miss M.H. Catley, headmistress of the Perse High School for Girls, took her degree at Oxford and came to Cambridge in 1926. She is with all her heart and all her desire, a trainer of girls. The keynote to her success is her understanding of youth – she is herself barely out of this category. She takes full part in sports and is an enthusiastic Girl Guide. There is still a long vista of years ahead of her and her success will be reaped when the young girls she is today training have themselves come to maturity. 30 12 16

1931 07 17

An undergraduate rag in celebration of examination success led to two young army officers appearing in court charged with the theft of coloured lenses and other fittings belonging to traffic lights on the corner of Lensfield Road. They were of no conceivable value except as a trophy. One was the son of a distinguished soldier in the Coldstream Guards killed at Arras during the war. If convicted it would have a grave effect on his army career. The case was dismissed. 31 07 17b & c

1933 02 11

An amazing criminal record in Canada and America, including safe blowing and the theft of bombs, and sentences among which was one of 30 years' imprisonment, were revealed against an Ashwell man who stood in the dock at Cambridge Police Court. He had been deported from Canada and America three times. The prisoner, a carpenter lodging in Norwich Street, was found with twelve £5 notes and a bunch of skeleton keys. He was sent to prison for three months. 33 02 11 & a



1933 05 06

There is a good deal of interest in the building operations in progress at the corner of Lensfield Road. It is for the Scott Polar Research Institute which has been based in a house at the corner of Panton Street since 1925. The new building, designed by Sir Herbert Baker and being built by Messrs Sindall, should be completed next year. 35 05 06a & b

1933 05 19

Sir – the gravel footpath from Brooklands Avenue along Hobson's River up Empty Common has long been known as Finch's Walk. But how did it get its name? Some people call it Senior Wranglers' Walk and connect it with the name of the Rev G.B. Finch who was Senior Wrangler in 1857. But he never mentioned that he had anything to do with it. In an 1834 deed relating to the Hobson's Conduit Trust there is mention of two trustees called Charles Finch, one of whom died in 1762, who had a foundry and ironworks in Thompson's Lane – W.D. Bushell. 33 05 19b

1933 07 07

The Carlton public house in Lensfield Road owned by Lacons brewery had seen an increase in trade following the Budget decrease. There had been no complaints about the tenant, Edward Bettsworth, who was getting a living and wanted to retain it. Its licence was renewed but not those of the Coach and Horses on Newnham Road or the Alhambra on East Road where there were five other pubs within 220 yards and the trade was decreasing. 33 07 07 p12

1933 11 18

Perse school extension – 33 11 18

1934 11 17

Perse School extensions opened by Stanley Baldwin – 34 11 17b

1935 08 02

The foundation stone of the new Roman Catholic Schools in Union Road was laid by the Bishop of Northampton. Such schools were almost as important as churches. Catholics cannot be satisfied with a sort of elementary Christian faith: their children must be taught as soon as they are able to read and understand. Cambridge Catholics would have to make very considerable sacrifices: more than £8,000 would be required when the new schools were completed. 35 08 02

1936 06 22

The landlord of The Oak in Lensfield Road was awakened by a terrible crash which shook the whole property. He found a Winston Smith van imbedded in the woodwork. It had been crossing the junction with Regent Street and Hills Road at about 4 a.m. when another van ran into it swinging it right round and smashing it backwards into the wooden wall of the pub. At this time of the morning the traffic lights are off and it is against the law to sound a horn or hooter. 36 06 22

1936 09 25

The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1937 02 06

The Star Brewery applied for the transfer of a licence from the Crown and Compasses in Coronation Street to a new 'Vine' pub in Vinery Way. There had been 817 new houses nearby and many residents supported the application. But several residents thought it would devalue their property and Mr Skeel, who has an off-licence in Vinery Road, opposed it. Greene King also wanted to erect 'The Running

Footman' in Coldham's Lane opposite Brooks Road. It would be open at all times for the sale of teas and would have a Cumberland turf bowling green. Both were refused. 37 02 06b

1937 02 27

The Cambridge Light Car Company opened premises in Hills Road about six years ago as Used Car Showrooms. The business rapidly increased and within two years the management found it necessary to take larger garage premises in Norwich Street for car storage and repairs. They were appointed distributors for the now famous High-class Triumph cars that have come rapidly to the fore during the last four seasons. They are also Morris deals and stock Standard, Austin and other popular makes of car 37 02 27

1937 12 22

"Mr Clark", the canary that called 'Time!' at the Spread Eagle, Lensfield Road, was suffocated to death by smoke when fire broke out in the saloon bar. He had been an affectionately regarded inhabitant of the pub for some eight years. His almost human intelligence made his cage hanging from the bar ceiling a frequent centre of attraction. The bird was alive when rescued but although given brandy was too overcome by smoke to recover. The fire was caused by Christmas decorations accidentally catching fire 37 12 22b

1938 05 02

Charles Daisley, a library assistant of Coronation Street, was injured when the aeroplane he was piloting crashed at Quy. He was practising forced landings when the two-seater, of which he was the sole occupant, landed in a field and tipped sideways. The front cockpit was damaged by the engine being forced into it. He was in the rear cockpit but sustained a broken nose and concussion. He was one of the first to join the RAF Volunteer Reserve when they started training in Cambridge a few months ago and was doing part of his 15 days' annual training. 38 05 02b

1938 12 24

Lombardy Poplar by Catholic church was planted by Julian Skrine in his garden at 'Lensfield' the grounds of which extended to where Catholic Church now stands; has photo of garden showing windmill in Mill Road. 38 12 24b

## **1940**

1941 01 16

East Anglian town's miniature fire blitz. Famous public school [Perse] damaged 41 01 16, a,b,c Perse school treasures saved after fire destroyed library and classrooms. The shields which hung around the walls, the War Memorial and the portrait of Dr Rouse survived – 41 02 15a, 41 02 20b

1942 09 04

Death of Solicitor. Many people in Cambridge will learn with regret of the death of Mr. H. F. Shaw, which occurred on Sunday after a long illness, at his home at 54, Lensfield Road. A well-known and much respected figure, Mr. Shaw had practised as a solicitor in the town since just after the last war. He was 50 years of age. During the last war he lost the sight of an eye while serving in the 12th Suffolk Regiment, and very shortly afterwards came up to Christ's College to study law. He took his M.A. and Ll.B. degrees and studied practical law for some time under Mr. Guy Stanley. Later he became a partner in the firm, and for the past 18 months, since the retirement of Mr. Stanley, had been in sole charge. In 1936 he was appointed Clerk to the Cambridge County Petty Sessions at the Shire Hall. In the Borough he was a frequent prosecutor for the police, and also instructed many counsel for the Crown at Assizes

1944 01 21

Awarded Military Medal. Trooper E. D. Smith has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Jesse Smith, of 20 Queen's Meadow, Cherry Hinton. Before being called

up he was employed by Messrs Hallock and Bond at their warehouse in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

1944 04 03

YWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate 65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1946 09 10

Squatters 38 Lensfield Rd which requisitioned and used as extension of the YWCA hostel next door; photo of military policeman guarding wire-barricaded huts on Donkey Common, making sure ATS do not get any squatter neighbours – 46 09 10

1946 11 04

Miss M.H. Catley, headmistress of Perse for 20 years, resigns; numbers had increased from 284 to 486 – 46 11 04

1947 07 22 c

The death occurred at the Catholic Nursing Home in Brooklands Avenue of Mr Edmund Joseph Kett who has been ill for the past week. Mr Kett who was 85, was a partner in the firm of Messrs Rattee and Kett, builders and contractors where he started as a boy immediately on leaving school. He retired from the firm in 1925 when the business became a limited company. During his time with the firm he was responsible for the building of the Cambridge Catholic Church and was also connected with the restoration of Arundel Castle, the Duke of Norfolk's country seat. This took 16 years to complete

1947 11 17

The S.O.S. Society's Boys' Hostel at Winston House, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge was officially opened in the presence of a large audience, including magistrates from the surrounding district. Lord Huntingfield spoke its work in relation to its care for boys who had either come into contact with Probation Officers or had homes that were not particularly desirable. He commented "Youth, being what it is, does not always recognise the laws of the grown-ups and they are inclined to do things which bring them into conflict with the long arm of the law. These are the kind of boys taken in here and looked after".

1948 05 05

The experience of being stranded in a strange town, with nowhere to stay, is particularly unpleasant for young women. There must be many who, stranded in this way in Cambridge, have heard themselves being directed to the Bene't Hostel for Women which exists to provide such shelter. The hostel was started in Brooklands Avenue in 1943 to meet a wartime need and during the last year of hostilities 1,060 applications were received and the total number occupying beds was 8,265. Its continuing need being proved, a house was later bought at 1, Drosier Road where an average of 21 beds have been occupied nightly ever since

1949 03 30

Juvenile delinquency is very much in the news at the moment, and the problem of how to check it is increasingly occupying the attention of social workers. An experiment in this direction is being conducted in Cambridge at "Winston House", Brooklands Avenue. Here, boys in between 14 and 17, who have been in their first trouble, are given a chance to make good by making them happy members of a little family, providing useful outlets for their mental and physical energy and helping them to make right friendships and get a sense of responsibility and self-respect.

1949 08 11

Sitting in the bar of the Jolly Brewers in Union Rd, Cambridge, Jasper Maskelyne, the famous magician who is appearing at the New Theatre, saw the landlord take up his banjo and prepare to play. "When I heard how well he could play I decided he was certainly good enough for the stage", he said.

As a result the licensee, Mr Percy Jackson, will appear at the first house on Friday night and may be heard later over the radio. Mr Jackson strummed and sang a popular Western number and showed that his skill is well worth a wider audience than that of his bar, crowded though that gets when he leads a singsong on Saturday nights.

## **1950**

1950 01 27

Brooklands Avenue trees, p9

1950 04 03

The death of Dr Alexander Wood, University don and distinguished townsman, has robbed Cambridge of one of its best-known public figures. He stood as Labour candidate for Cambridge University in 1929 and for Cambridge in 1931, 34 & 35. He represented Labour in the fight for the New Town ward in the Cambridge borough elections in 1925 and was defeated. Elected next year there followed an unbroken period of service until 1945 when he was made an Alderman. For the last 10 years he was chairman of the Cambridge housing committee & worked tirelessly to ease living conditions in Cambridge. He often confessed publicly his sense of the great responsibility he held.

1951 04 18

Seventy-one year Mr Robert O'dell went to the Ministry of Labour offices in Brooklands Avenue, in response to instructions to go for a Z Reserve medical examination. Mr O'dell – Bowie as he is widely known in Cambridge, where he has a greengrocery business – was rather surprised to get the instruction, as he has never been in the army. He was told it was all a mistake. "I asked about my expenses for travelling and lost time", he said.

1951 11 21

There is an air of excitement at the Perse School for Girls as their new hall is growing day-by-day in the school grounds to replace the ramshackled wooden building – two Army huts knocked into one – which has served the school since 1918. The Headmistress, Miss M.A. Scott says that many responsible for the building have family connections. It will not only be a place for morning assembly and prayers but will be used for various lessons & for recreation during the dinner hour. The school is working hard to help pay for it and girls are doing all sorts of odd jobs, including running errands, baby sitting, darning socks and stockings, washing up and saving bus fares by walking to school.

1953 06 03

The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers, Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherryhinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1953 07 03

Botanic Garden expansion, p9

1953 08 04

To the everyday passer-by the tall stately elm trees in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, give the impression of being sound and sturdy. But some have now been cut down and it can be seen that sections of their trunks are hollow! Six have been taken down and there are a further 20 which have serious defects and decay. It was in April 1950 that the City Council decided to remove all the trees and replant the Avenue with new ones, but owing to public opinion the decision was reversed. If the present disease continues it will not be many years before most of the common elm trees in Cambridge have been removed.

1953 08 29

The Eastern Region Food Office is to cease to function in Cambridge after 14 years. It opened in Corpus Christi College at the beginning of the war and remained there until November 1945 when it moved to its present offices in Brooklands Avenue. In December 1946 the Essex and Hertfordshire region was also brought under Cambridge

1953 12 28

At Winston House Boys' Hostel, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge each lad had presents sent from "Fairy Godmothers" who invited a number of them for dinner. For those who remained there was roast chicken and Christmas pudding. At The Grange Children's' Home, Swavesey the children hopefully hung up their stockings at the foot of the bed and on awaking found they had been filled. There was no shortage of presents at the Little Shelford Children's' Home, partly due to the generosity of the American servicemen station in the vicinity. An American 'Father Christmas' arrived from Wimpole Park bringing tennis racquets, bagatelle, darts, dolls and tea sets.

1954 07 19

The Minister has approved a western by-pass for Cambridge using the northern leg of Storeys Way and a link from Barton Road through Chaucer Road to Trumpington Road. There will be a road from the end of Brooklands Avenue across the railway sidings and joining Station Road opposite the end of Tenison Road. This means it will be possible eventually to have a complete ring road near the centre of the city.

1955 09 06

One of the finest clubrooms for civil servants opened next door to the bowling green in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge. It is within easy reach of the officer and membership is one-penny a week. It would enhance the civil service's reputation for high standards of integrity and once members entered they should completely forget about rank. 55 09 06

1956 05 05

Britain is on the brink of war. Enemy forces are massed against us and it appears only a matter of hours that the first attack of World War Three will come. Although the man in the street is unaware of it the Army and Civil Defence are taking part in the biggest defence exercise the world has yet seen. It envisages evacuation of 800,000 people from London and authorities have joined together in the war room at Brooklands Avenue to assess the situation. 56 05 05a

1956 05 07

Biggest combined Civil Defence and military operation seen anywhere – co-ordinated from Brooklands Avenue – 56 05 07

1956 11 22

Several hundred civil servants at Brooklands Avenue will be out of work as a result of the Government's decision to close down this regional centre. Nine departments will be affected and only a very small nucleus will be retained at the site. It is more economic to have them operate from London. Cambridge sprang up as a Regional Centre during the last war. 56 11 22

1956 11 29

Preparation for petrol rationing began in mid-November and thousands of applications for supplementary rations are arriving at the Ministry of Fuel and Power at Brooklands Avenue. Local garages say there has been little panic buying as most motorists already have their tanks full and merely call in for the odd gallon to remain topped up. But when rationing is introduced garages will only be able to obtain supplies on production of coupons handed to them by customers. Should a garage run out of petrol they will have to go without for as long as the rationing continues. 56 11 29 a & b

1957 02 08

The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service at Brooklands Avenue has doubled its strength since 1954 and has now moved to Queen Anne Terrace. It was set up to investigate the tremendous amount of waste of fuel through poorly insulated buildings or by untrained stokers. They help bring industrial plants up to high standards of fuel utilisation enabling savings of 15 per cent during 1955-56. 57 02 08

1957 04 16

The central island containing the underground public convenience at Hyde Park Corner is to be removed to make way for new traffic signals. The toilets might be resited on Lensfield Road where trees and a fence will provide a screen from the Scott Polar Research Institute. But the University suggests that Parker's Piece would be a better location. 57 04 16a

1957 07 17

Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1957 11 18

Bus stop near Brooklands Avenue is a danger – claim – 57 11 18

1958 05 30

One of the most outstanding features of the Botanic Garden is the new rock garden by the lake. Designed and built by the staff it is composed of Westmorland limestone and sandstone from Sussex so that plants which enjoy both these conditions may flourish. The limestone section is not yet completed but one can see the many alpine treasures which grow at its edge. 58 05 30a

1958 09 24

Miss Mary Cattley was Headmistress of the Perse School for Girls from 1926-1947. She introduced the house system, saw the building of the new school block in 1930, the establishment of the games field and the river bathing place which was acquired in 1934. During the war the school welcomed refugee girls from Europe, many of whom have married and settled down in Cambridge. 58 09 24

1958 11 06

Princess Margaret was described as a person who could 'blend approachability with majesty in a wonderful way' when she received an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. Looking radiant and beautiful, dressed in a brilliant mauve velvet coat, she was given a rousing welcome by thousands of cheering schoolchildren as she drove from the station. Later she opened the new Chemical Laboratories in Lensfield Road. 58 11 06 & abc, 58 11 07 & bc

1958 11 08

The Ministry of Fuel and Power which administered fuel rationing during the war has moved its regional headquarters from Brooklands Avenue to London. At first there were two offices: the petroleum office in Chaucer Road and a general office which started at Corpus Christi college and later removed to Trinity dealing with coal, gas and electricity. At its peak 300 people were employed but now a very small staff will remain to ensure that gas and electricity meters are working efficiently. 58 11 08c

1959 04 07

The Employment Exchange which has been sited in Newnham for nearly 30 years is moving to Brooklands Avenue. It provides a register of people seeking professional, managerial and senior executive posts and employees wishing to fill such vacancies. Nearly 200 men and women as well as ex-officers from HM Forces are included. The passports department and National Service registration office will also be affected. 59 04 07

***1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date***

## **1960**

1960 06 20

Chemical laboratory Lensfield Road windows shattered by violent explosion – 60 06 20a

1960 10 28

Over 100 houses and shops, a Church Institute and a public house in an area near the Roman Catholic Church, Hills Road, may be compulsorily purchased by the City Council. Properties in Coronation Street, King George IV Street, Union Road, Bentinck Street, Princess Street and Queen's Street have reached the end of their useful life and were unfit for human habitation. Slates were off the roof, they had rising damp and woodworm. But shopkeepers protested and one owner said she was very attached to the house and it would be a great hardship to leave. 60 10 28

1961 03 02

Winston House, an experiment in mental after-care in Brooklands Avenue, was opened in 1958 to provide temporary accommodation for those recovering from mental and nervous sickness and looking for permanent homes of their own. It can accommodate 23 people in a homely atmosphere and since January 1960 there has been a waiting list. Last year 48 people left the hostel, 26 of them having gained benefit from their stay. 61 03 02a

1962 04 06

The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b

1962 04 30

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's mock funeral march through the centre of Cambridge caused traffic congestion, provoked an anti-CND march and met with a noisy reception from undergraduates in the Market Square. The 'funeral cortege' stretched for 300 yards behind a child's coffin carried by two pall bearers. Altogether 400 'mourners' took part in the march including Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer. A Committee of 100 contingent joined in a demonstration at the Government buildings in Brooklands Avenue 62 04 30a

1962 12 13

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Lensfield Road 62 12 13

1963 02 20

Plans for the New Town area will retain the strong community spirit with different blocks of flats and houses centred on a 'village green'. There will be a church, local shops, public house, old people's flatlets, a children's playing space and hall, an Inquiry heard. However 87 properties in Russell Street & Coronation Street not fit for human habitation would be compulsorily purchased and 27 others redeveloped. The roofs are in bad shape, the brickwork and chimneys perished and all have outside toilets. It could be rebuilt in stages to minimise disruption. But some residents objected. 63 02 20

1963 04 15

Cambridge's latest jazz club in the dimly-lit cellar of the Dolphin public house in Coronation Street is fast building a reputation for modern jazz. Every Wednesday the resident group, the Percy Seeby quartet, backed during the interval by records, plays to a membership now limited to 100. Half an hour after the band starts the cellar was full and it was even difficult to climb down the dozen or so steps. Another popular item in the programme is poetry reading lead by Nigel Gordon. 63 04 15

1963 05 09

South Cambs RDC plan new offices at Brooklands Avenue or Sawston – 63 05 09b

1963 05 30

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Brooklands Avenue – 63 05 30

1963 06 06

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Brookside – 63 06 06

1963 06 14

The firm of J.E. Hanger of Brooklands Avenue is concerned with the supply and repair of artificial limbs. For nearly 50 years they have dealt entirely with legs. Measurements are taken, appliances fitted and minor or emergency repairs are undertaken. The workshop has legs of all shapes, sizes and styles, with or without shoes and socks or stockings. Repainted wooden feet are hung up to dry and a grinder is used for smoothing rough metal surfaces. Shelves of screw-top jars contain nuts, bolts and screws 63 06 14a

1964 01 24

At 84, Harry Capon is the oldest stallholder on the Cambridge market. He sells the same type of fancy goods as when he first set up the stall at 16. "Every Monday and Saturday I get up at 5.30 and load up the trolley with the goods and pull it from my house in Coronation Street. I set the stuff out on the stall then it's sell, sell, sell until 6pm when I start to pack up. Again another hour or so to load the trolley and then back home to bed about 9 pm. Two days a week I go up the London and the warehouses; I often get a lift with a fruitier and he leaves me at Hyde Park Corner on the way to Covent Garden", he says., adding "The market is slowly dying ... fewer people and fewer stalls" 64 01 24

1964 04 09

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Coronation Street – 64 04 09

1964 06 06

Compulsory purchase orders have been confirmed for the clearance of areas at Napier Street, Leeke Street, Coronation Street, Gold Street and Russell Street. But the Minister has excluded some properties in Newmarket Road and Burleigh Place together with no 9 Coronation Street which his inspectors say is fit for habitation. Objectors had claimed that compulsory acquisition would cause hardship and was not necessary for redevelopment. 64 06 06a

1964 07 01

Sites in St Matthew's Ward, which have been cleared for redevelopment, are being used for rubbish dumping and becoming overgrown with weeds. The worst parts are a big dump of soot and abandoned car parts in Burleigh Place. There were also concerns about sites in Petworth Street and Staffordshire Street as well as Coronation Street. If a property was not demolished at once, vagrants moved in. There was a risk of squatting if they didn't fence off some of the areas, councillors heard. 64 07 01a

1965 07 02

Waste paper warehouse, Norwich Street deliberately set on fire – 65 07 02a

1966 02 23

'Crumbling Cambridge' feature – derelict houses, vermin; pictures Nelson St, Coronation St, Leeke St – 66 02 23a

1966 05 07

Government offices, Brooklands Avenue – photo – 66 05 07

1966 07 16



Elmhurst, Brooklands Avenue, GORA headquarters for 30 years sold to Lloyd's Bank in one of city's largest property auctions for £74,000 – 66 07 16

1966 10 11

Cheshunt College staff and students to join with Westminster College, premises in Bateman Street for sale; was founded in Wales in 1768, moved to Cambridge in 1905, new buildings 1913 – 66 10 11; premises for sale – 66 10 21b

1967 03 15

Cheshunt College sale may be concluded to private buyer – 67 03 15

1967 03 30

Lloyds Bank moving district office from Hobson Street to Brooklands Avenue building that housed Gt Ouse River Authority – 67 03 30

1967 07 06

Lloyds Bank move district office to Brooklands Ave – 67 07 06 & a

1967 07 27

Cheshunt College bought by Freemasons – 67 07 27

## **1970**

1972 09 08

Just in case The Bomb should ever drop, eight powerful new air raid warning sirens are to be installed in Cambridgeshire. Although few people ever see or hear them, the Home Office has about 22,000 warning points in the United Kingdom equipped with electric or hand sirens for air attack warnings and maroons for fall-out warnings. Now they are to be replaced by powerful compressed-air sirens which are much more efficient and much louder. The eight which are to be installed in Cambridgeshire will be at Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, Waterbeach Barracks, Oakington airfield, Great Wilbraham, the old Duxford airfield, Bassingbourn Barracks Lt Eversden & Linton 72 09 08

1975 12 08

The official opening of the Cambridge Jobcentre was carried out by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, Miss Rosemary Murray. She said a site in the centre was desirable for any supermarket – and jobcentres had been called job supermarkets. They are a new thing to get away from the old dole queue and form-filling image of job seeking. 30 staff have been transferred to the new Jobcentre from the employment offices in Brooklands Avenue. Currently the city has 1,650 out of work and 370 jobs on offer

1976 12 13

The Cambridge Scouts' shop in Perne Road celebrated 50 years of existence. Known first as the Equipment Store it opened in a rifle range half way up the stairs at the old Grafton Street headquarters on 13th December 1926. The shop's manager, Mr Kenneth North, took over in 1934. He remained when the shop moved temporarily to Russell Street and then to the new Scout headquarters in 1956. Mr John Chambers has been associated with it since he joined as a boy in 1940 & Roger Woollard, Scout leader running the 13th Cambridge Scouts Group, also helps out

1976 12 17

The Cambridge County Court moved into a new office block between Bateman Street and Norwich Street earlier this year. Both the court and the offices are uncompromisingly modern. They are efficient, comfortable but quite impersonal. The court room with simple modern furniture lacks the character of the old premises in the centre of Cambridge. But most cases dealt with are divorce and perhaps the less daunting informal atmosphere is more suitable. The witness boxes are so close to the judge's chair than an incensed witness could hit the judge and certainly see his notes.

1977 02 02

The Dorothy Continental delicatessen on the corner of Sussex Street, Cambridge, ceased trading at the weekend. It was the last remaining part of the former Dorothy restaurant and ballroom, sold by G.P. Hawkins in 1972 for £850,000. The Dorothy contained a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions. It was taken over by the Co-op in 1952. The above-ground part of the Dorothy was acquired by Waring and Gillow, the London-based furniture chain, the remainder now forms the Henekey Tavern. When the Dorothy closed, Hawkins moved its outside catering section to the Alma Brewery site in Russell Street.

1977 07 16

The two leading private gardens in the CEN gardens competition were in the easy working are of Trumpington. The winner, Stuart Brown and his wife Shirley, had moved into the usual near dereliction about three years ago. Runner-up was Mr V. Pike who has spent a lifetime in gardening. Other class winners were W. Brunt of Rayson Way, E.W. Gentle of Thoday Street, F.J. Elbourn, Norwich Street and K.C. Newman, Fallowfield.

1978 05 19

Cambridge City Council has applied for St Paul's school in Russell Street to be listed as a protected historic building. Built in 1845 it is the earliest elementary school in Cambridge and was designed by Ambrose Poynter, possibly the only classical school building by him in England. For 10 years there have been plans to build a brand new school on an adjoining site but now there are proposals to remodel the old one to allow more classroom space.

1978 06 08

St Paul's school in Russell Street, Cambridge is one of the earliest elementary schools in Cambridge. It dates from 1845 and was designed by Ambrose Poynter, probably the only classical school building in England ever designed by him. Now it could be in danger of partial demolition since the school managers have decided rebuild on a site that cuts right through it. It unlikely demolition will occur because the old building is on one side of Russell Street and plans for the new building are on the other side of the road. Now the City Council has asked for the building to be listed.

1978 08 08

A leading churchman gave warning on the aims of the Moonies sect, which have been operating from a terraced house in Norwich Street in Cambridge for the past six or seven years. The Regius Professor of Divinity said the movement demanded total commitment and obedience from the young people who joined & was not a Christian organisation as it claimed to be. A Unification Church spokesman said the church was far more representative of the living Christianity than many of the more traditional denominations

1978 09 18

The New Town area of Cambridge was developed in the 1820s with unpretentious terraces, many of which were ill-built. But at least they had unity. Today, largely demolished and patchily replaced, New Town strikes one as a sorry mess. Panton Street is a mixture of discreet, elegant houses with intrusive modern developments. The St Anthony's Walk almshouses are a discordant construction, their severe frontage characterised by jutting ventilatory contraptions: a battery-house for humans. Opposite begins the Russell Court complex of flats; as such developments go the quality is good and attempts have been made at a humanised appearance. Will its stark modern brick ever attain the serene texture of the houses over the way – Graham Chainey

1979 03 09

In theory the Cambridge Drugs Clinic has a lot of control over its registered drug addicts. In practice it often has very little. Once registered with the clinic in Lensfield Road the only obligation on the junkie is that he turns up for regular consultation with one of the doctors. That amounts to a few

minutes once a fortnight. The clinic's work is hampered by lack of money: it comes within the general budget of the psychiatric clinic it shares a building with. It serves a vast area, from Felixstowe to Bedford; apart from its head there are just three part-time doctors and two social workers, which according to DHSS recommendations is only enough for 50 patients.

## **1980**

1980 01 10

Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocer for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner

1981 01 17

The Perse School for Girls celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a mammoth birthday cake made by the school cooks. It was left to the youngest pupil, Amanda Higgins, to blow out the candles. Head girl, Rachel Bendall presided over the cutting while the headmistress, Miss Mary Rose Bateman, helped with the serving to each of the 701 pupils and staff. Later there was a film depicting its history and a thanksgiving service. 81 01 17

1981 12 04

The Oak in Lensfield Road had a world-wide reputation as a centre for good Irish music. Before modernisation it was a wonderful place. Playing sessions would start up automatically on Friday nights, Saturday lunchtimes and Sundays too. But now venues for Irish music are fast disappearing in Cambridge. The demise of the Ancient Druids was another blow and the Cow and Calf on Pound Hill is virtually the only one remaining. 81 12 04b

1982 07 20

The Alma Brewery in Russell Court is reopening as a free house under the control of CAMRA. The pub, which dates back to 1835, was one of the first buildings to be erected in the former Balls Folly Field. It took its name from the Battle of the Alma in the Crimean War. Brewing stopped in 1909 but it continued to be run as a pub until it closed in March. 82 07 20a

1982 08 26

Preservationists have won a long fight to stop the old St Paul's School buildings in Russell Street from being demolished. They are the oldest primary school buildings in Cambridge, designed by Ambrose Poynter, a pupil of the great Regency architect, John Nash. They have not been used since the new school was opened a year ago. 82 08 26

1983 02 22

Coronation Street used to be a real community with two breweries, three pubs, a general store, hardware shop, tailors' and a greengrocer's. Small houses with pretty cottage gardens lined the street and the inhabitants knew each other's business in the nicest possible way. Change came when the council pulled down a line of old homes and rehoused many streeters in nearby flatblocks. More work bulldozed the Victorian streetscape and now it is one of the most modern-looking in Cambridge, clean and possibly rather sterile. 83 02 22a

1985 07 05

Police are investigating a massive fire which ripped through the Perse School for Girls in the early hours of the morning. Two laboratories were gutted and the rest of the building was severely smoke damaged. Today the school was closed. Many of the 540 pupils arriving for classes were unaware of

the fire and were sent home. Headmistress Miss Mary Bateman said it was a serious nuisance but not a tragedy and hopefully the school would reopen on Monday 85 07 05

1985 10 14

The waiting lists for St Paul's School in Coronation Street and St Matthew's in Norfolk Street have become so full that there is a queue for every place. Pregnant mothers are wanting to sign in their as yet unborn babies. But there are no plans to expand the schools from their present roll and children who cannot be admitted will have to be taken to other schools across the city. The problem is due to the changing face of Cambridge: once the local streets were full of lodging houses and bedsitters. Now professional people have moved in and renovated the houses 85 10 15

1988 05 20

Winston House, Brooklands Ave a residential home for people with psychiatric and psychological problems – 88 05 20

1988 08 26

Girls were prettier and better dressed, 60 years ago, say former 'flappers' at an old people's home in Coronation Street. They never relied as heavily on make-up and let fresh air get to their skin. Laura Bidwell, 85, was a tender 17 in 1920 and never wore more than a touch of face powder and a smudge of lipstick which she bought from a small Boots store on the corner of Petty Cury. Beatrice Webb remembers wearing a lacy flapper dresses at a party. "You always had the proper rig-out then, with hat, handbag and shoes to match", says Alice Hodder, 91, 88 08 26

1988 10 17

The Perse School for Girls has opened a new science and crafts building at a cost of almost £1 million. The four-storey block, to be used by over 600 girls, was opened by eminent scientist Dame Rosemary Murray, the first woman vice-chancellor of Cambridge University. It has facilities for the teaching of electronics, computing, design technology and photography and includes the Maddocks physics laboratory, named after a former pupil who made a major donation to the fund. 88 10 17

1988 12 28

Brooklands Avenue Government canteen to be repaired and refurbished – 88 12 28a

1989 05 19

Winston House in Brooklands Avenue, established in 1959, is a psychiatric rehabilitation centre owned by the SOS charity. There are 20 residents staying on average a year with care and advice on hand all day. All are encouraged to lead a full life and to do something constructive outside the house. But privacy is a problem in the 13-bedroomed house and an appeal has been launched to provide more single rooms and larger kitchens. 89 05 19b

1989 06 23

A new bridge over Hobson's Conduit is part of a scheme to beat traffic jams at the junction of Lensfield and Trumpington Roads. Vehicles would turn along a short stretch of Brookside then cross the stream towards Trumpington. The rest of the junction would be controlled by a complex system of traffic lights based on the successful new computer system on Huntingdon Road. Some of the cost would be met by whichever company develops the ground-level car park in Saxon Street, county engineers say. But it was rejected as 'devastating and environmentally disastrous' by city officials. 89 06 23 & b

1989 11 28

The National Extension College in Brooklands Avenue has more students than Cambridge University and offers courses from accounting to zoo-keeping. It was set up in the back room of a condemned cottage in 1963 to open the door to higher education through correspondence courses. It was the brainwave of Michael Young, Cambridge University's first lecturer in sociology and founder of the Consumers' Association. A forerunner of the Open University, it has 15,000 students and its expertise

has been used by the BBC and Channel Four in preparing their own adult education programmes. 89  
11 28

1990 03 14

Unex group has produced details of its big new development, Intercity House, on the former Pordage distribution site at the corner of Brooklands Avenue and Hills Road. It will offer air-conditioned offices with crèche, restaurant and gymnasium together with 301 car parking spaces. The windows will be high-performance anodised aluminium and the scheme will reflect the style and quality of the Victorian Royal Albert Almshouses across the road – 90 03 14

1990 04 17

Hobson's Publishing, Bateman Street, which has announced losses may be taken over by Daily Mail and General Investments group – 90 04 17a

1990 08 28

Alma Brewery, Russell Court, damaged by fire – 90 08 28a